

EMMA S. BARRIENTOS MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

REGULAR MEETING

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting at 600 River Street, in Austin, Texas.

Board Members in Attendance:

Rick Hernandez, Chair
Blanca Valencia, Co- Chair
Juan Oyervides, Member
Juanita Tijerina, Member
Kathy Vale Castillo, Member

Aida Cerda-Prazak, Member
Anna Maciel, Member
Julia Aguilar, Member
Aldo Davila, Member
Ruth Powers, Member

Board Members Absent:

Adriel Meditz, Member

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Esparza, HAND Manager
Herlinda Zamora, ESB-MACC Manager
Tina Herrera, ESB-MACC Administrative Assistant

- A. COMMUNITY INTEREST ANNOUNCEMENT:** Chair Hernandez announced the Community Interest Announcement was left on from the prior agenda and should have been removed.
- B. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Rick Hernandez called the Board Meeting to order at 6:07pm, asking Herlinda Zamora to introduce the newest ESB-MACC Program Coordinator. Vanessa Castro was in attendance and gave a brief description of her background and expressed her sincere interest joining the team.
- C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:**
Cynthia Valadez expressed a great concern for the Awards of Excellence process. Valadez believes that the community should be nominating the individuals and that individuals should have some involvement with the Center, and be reflective of the community. She expressed that the Board needs to be responsible for the process. Valadez suggested that there be a formal process of who is invited to the event and be the emcee, and that it's not constantly changing every year.
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Member Aguilar noted a correction to the minutes under **D. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS (3)(b)**, to change December 2, 2016 to December 2, 2015. Co-Chair Valencia noted to add on prior to **(3)(b)** that Kim McNeeley stated the City's PIO process. Member Vale-Castillo noted to add that she suggested inviting Former Senator Gonzalo Barrientos to be the emcee, and to invite one of his children. Member Oyervides made the motion. Co-Chair Valencia seconded the motion. The corrections will be made as amended. Motion passed. (10.0) Member Meditz was absent.
- E. PRESENTATIONS:**
1. Marina Islas, Culture and Arts Education Coordinator gave a presentation on the summer camp classes.
 - She discussed the mission of the ESB-MACC Education Department. She explained the different topics for the summer including the teen camps, which include Rights, Animal Welfare, Social Justice and Environmental Justice.
 - Islas informed the Board that the first two sessions for the Youth summer camp were full and sessions three and four still had openings. Teen program enrollment opens April 25th.

- Islas gave an update on the scholarships noting that FY 2015 is a department wide program. In order for students to qualify, they would have to be currently receiving free or reduced lunch and must provide documentation supporting this. Once all documentation has been provided then their fee will be reduced by 50%. There is no CAP on how many times an individual can use this Scholarship.
 - Islas informed the Board that the education staff will be reaching out to schools, specifically Sanchez, Metz, Zavala and speaking with them to let them know about the financial aid that is provided to them.
 - Member Aldo expressed concern for the pricing of the camps for those that are low income households. He felt that there should be some kind of funding to help reduce the cost of the camps to make it more affordable or even free for those students that can't afford the camps. Co-Chair Valencia suggested fundraising efforts.
 - Member Vale-Castillo requested that one or more children make a presentation to the Board and Co-Chair Valencia suggested that Islas gather data of the repeating students and new students and create a map based on the data received.
2. Kim McKnight from PARD'S Planning, Design and Construction Division provided an update on the ongoing proposed CIP projects at the ESB-MACC.
 - McKnight gave an update on the multi-purpose room improvements and renovation stating they will soon presume procurement on theatrical lighting, curtain system and electrical lighting. She stated that the design should take about six months.
 - The parking lot lights illumination currently has a proposal that is being worked on with Elk Electrical in the amount of \$17,700 to replace light fixtures and arms this would be the first phase. The second phase would be to evaluate the illumination to see if there would be any additional need for lighting.
 - Member Davila asked that the next time McKnight gives an update, if she could please provide a time frame of when the work will start, or if any delays will occur to give an update, and why the project will be delayed.

F. BRIEFING, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

1. Laura Esparza gave an update on the CIP projects and remaining fund balances. She stated that there were no estimates to replace the rusting on the railings at this time.
 - Chair Hernandez asked would there be a safety hazard due to the issue. Esparza responded that she would discuss the issue with George Maldonado.
 - Member Aldo believes that this is a safety concern that should be addressed under the Center's maintenance budget.
2. Kim McKnight discussed the Master Plan, and how the scope of work is in progress however they are waiting on the development process. Developer C.J. Sackman stated they are in the midst of negotiations and clarified that they are zeroing in on some final terms. He was confident that within the next two months everything would be finalized.
 - Cost of the Master Plan will be along the lines of \$250 to \$300,000 with \$400,000 being the maximum.
 - McKnight stated she will get a definitive answer in regards to the timeframe and what happens to the funds from her Manager, Ricardo Solis and will follow up.
 - Chair Hernandez asked once the agreement is met what the timeframe would be. Sackman stated that they have a 24 month window, the tower is scheduled for 25 months with an addition of a 9 months extension offered if needed at a rental rate. Chair Hernandez expressed concern of the nature of the Park and what the community wants to see from the MACC.

3. Chair Hernandez stated to the Board that the Waller Creek Conservancy Working Group report should have been removed from the Agenda due to the Waller Creek meeting not taking place. There was no discussion.
4. Member Oyervides expressed that he would like to form a working group to set priorities for the Rainey Street Historic District. He would like for the group to include Member Tijerina, Member Maciel, and Member Aguilar and also reach out to stakeholders. He also stated that they have started the budget process with the City and that it is very important for us to be prepared.
 - Member Oyervides motioned to create a Rainey Street Historical Working Group, consisting of Member Aguilar, Member Maciel, Member Tijerina, and Member Oyervides. Member Vale Castillo seconded the motion. Motion passed. (10.0)
 - Chair Hernandez let the Board know that he met with Kitty McMahon from the Rainey Street Neighborhood Association and believes that it would be a good idea to come together with the Rainey Street Neighborhood and build a working relationship. Member Vale-Castillo suggested working with Rainey Street Association to help fund the Center's Education Programs. Member Maciel thought it would be a good idea to unite both groups and their efforts with all that the MACC has to offer, assisting with funding, or the development plans for the Rainey Street Historical District.
5. Herlinda Zamora gave a status on the Awards of Excellence ceremony taking place Saturday, May 21st. She mentioned that past recipients will be placed on the Awards of Excellence Wall starting from 2009 to current. The Mayor will be in attendance to speak.
 - Zamora expressed that Danny Camacho recently passed away and she would like to recognize him at the event. Member Vale-Castillo suggested a Memoriam, and Member Davila suggested possibly naming a room in his honor. Co-Chair Valencia suggested that Danny Camacho's name be put on the Wall of Excellence. Member Oyervides recommended that the Board revisit the idea in a year.
6. Laura Esparza stated that at this time the Board will take nominations for Vice Chair. Co-Chair Valencia nominated herself. Chair Hernandez nominated himself as Chair. Blanca moved that the board select the current Chair and Co-Chair for the new term. Member Vale-Castillo seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (10.0)

G. STAFF REPORTS:

Herlinda Zamora presented Hector Ordaz with Proyecto Teatro, who reported on their current production *Sin Fronteras*. She also invited the board to attend the following events on May 28th Dr. Maggie Rivas will be conducting oral story workshops, and Daniel Llanes. Zamora gave the April reports.

H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

NONE DISCUSSED

I. ADJOURNMENT:

Member Vale Castillo motioned to adjourn with a second by Co-Chair Valencia. Motion passed. (10.0) Member Meditz was absent. Chair Hernandez adjourned the meeting at 9pm.